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Attorney Docket # 3397-102PUS

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Tapio MÄENPÄÄ et al.

Serial No.: 09/914,657

Filed: August 31, 2001

For: Method for Controlling the Moisture of a Web in
Machine Direction on a Coating Machine

Examiner:

Group Art: 1734

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Michael C. Stuart

Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative

Michael C. Stuart
Signature

February 6, 2002

Date of Signature

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

S I R:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, amend the application as
follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, replace the paragraph beginning on line 5 with the following paragraph:

B₁
The present invention relates to a method based on a novel control and steering strategy for
use in the drying process of a paper web or similar coated web material such as a board in
coater sections in which the web to be coated is passed via a coater station including at least
one applicator apparatus and dryers.

Page 1, replace the paragraph beginning on line 13 with the following paragraph:

P₂
In the coating of a web of paper or board, the surface of the web is first coated with a furnish
containing coating pigments slurried in water. After the application and smoothing of the
coating mix, the coating applied to the web surface as well as the underlying base web must be
dried to a sufficiently low moisture for final use or further processing. Hence, a major portion
of the energy consumed in the production of coated paper grades is lost in drying the web

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